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■ Clergyman fined after illegally dumping waste

FLYTIPPING MINISTER

A CHURCH minister, who dumped 18 bags of rubbish, was caught after letters to him were found amongst the waste.

Manoj Abraham, 35, was being driven by his wife when he dumped the waste at two spots near Shenington.

The Warwick Road, Banbury, resident last

By Oliver Evans

week pleaded guilty to disposing of waste without a permit at Banbury Magistrates' Court.

The bags – in an unclassified road between the A4260 Stratford Road and Shenington – were spotted by a Cherwell

District Council officer. Letters with Abraham's name, church title and address were among the contents. The council did not have the church name.

The council said it contacted Abraham and his wife, who were then interviewed under caution.

He admitted that he had dumped the rubbish because they had gone to a tip that was closed and the waste had started to smell.

Chairman of the bench John Kearsey told him at last week's hearing: "We take a very dim view of flytipping. It blights the countryside."

"Someone has to clean up after you – it does not get taken away by the pixies and it lowers the quality of life for everyone."

Abraham was fined £200, told to pay a £20 'victims' surcharge and £502.06 costs.

Cherwell's "clean and green" chief Nigel Morris said: "Every action has a reaction, and unfortunately in the case of flytipping that act is always negative."

"Rubbish which is illegally dumped not only creates an eyesore and poses a risk to wildlife but costs taxpayers thousands of pounds every year to clean up."

"Fortunately in this case, the costs will be met by Mr Abraham – who has not only inherited an expensive clean-up bill, but a criminal record in the process."

The council said it aimed to "investigate all fly tips within 24 hours and, when on public or council land, remove within two working days".

Contact the council on 01295 227001.

Echoes of the stars

VISITORS to the Banbury Museum this summer have had stars in their eyes.

The museum's free "Celebrity" exhibition, which runs until Saturday, has a number of items on display that once belonged to famous faces, including a dress worn by American actress Marilyn Monroe.

Events and exhibition officer Dale Johnston said: "People are surprised to see these things in Banbury."

Some of the other items donated to the museum include a pair of American actor and dancer Fred Astaire's leather spectator shoes and a draft script of the film *Titanic* from May 1996, signed by film director James Cameron and actor Leonardo DiCaprio.

The dress worn by Marilyn Monroe, pictured with events and exhibitions officer Dale Johnston OX61348

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ALL WINDOWS MANUFACTURED IN BANBURY

InBRIEF**Contest for town criers**

BANBURY'S annual Street Organ Festival and Town Criers Competition will be held on Saturday. Organ grinders will collect cash for charity and about 25 town criers are expected around the town centre from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

HS2 'maps'

A CAMPAIGN group has launched online maps to show the "enormous impact" of a controversial high speed train project. The Campaign to Protect Rural England said the maps show the "construction, operational and landscape impacts" of High Speed 2. The line is set to open in 2026 and could cut across the north east corner of the county near Finmere and Mixbury. See the maps at hs2maps.com

Free tour offer

A FREE tour of a landfill and power generation site at Ardley is on offer to residents. Waste firm Viridor is organising the Friday, September 13, tour as part of a Heritage Open Days scheme by English Heritage. Non-recyclable waste is taken to the site, which opened in 2011 and takes 300,000 tonnes a year. Booking is required on 01732 229 200.

Strong men pump up their muscles to raise cash for charity playbus group



THE 2013 Oxfordshire Charity Strongman Event took place in Banbury on Sunday.

The event was hosted at EP Elite Gym in aid of Oxfordshire Playbus, a mobile recreational facility for children.

The competitions at the gym in the Riverside Business Park, included an eight-tonne truck pull, a log press and a car dead lift.

Pictured in action is strong man competitor Andre Duffy, from Banbury

OX61488



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Burglar had masked and armed accomplices Man is jailed for part in gang raid

A BURGLAR who raided a flat with two others, who were masked and armed, has been jailed for four-and-a-half years.

Ashley Poulter, of Sussex Drive, Banbury, admitted aggravated burglary, possession of Class-B drugs and damage to property.

The 25-year-old was not masked or armed when he raided the flat in Northumberland Court, Banbury, but his two balaclava-clad companions were carrying a Taser and a flick knife.

During the burglary, at about 10.45pm on February 10 this year, one of the three occupants, Sean Jones, who knew Poulter, was stabbed.

Jane Davies, prosecuting, told the hearing at Oxford Crown Court that Poulter began punching and assaulting Mr Jones and a fight happened in the living room, during which Mr Jones was stabbed with the knife.

The trio took Mr Jones' wallet, but

By Emma Harrison

it is not known how much cash was in it. Ms Davies said: "Very fortunately the wound, having been explored, was superficial."

She added: "Clearly it wasn't Poulter who was responsible for the stabbing. It was the other man."

Steven Hadley, defending, said: "He does express genuine remorse, which I invite the court to take into account."

Sentencing, Judge Charles Harris said: "It was a joint enterprise, which probably had something to do with drugs."

"Although you are only 25, you have 13 previous convictions for 22 offences, including one burglary and others for violence."

"You will appreciate burglary is a serious offence, more so when accompanied by violence."

Poulter was also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £120.



Jailed: Ashley Poulter

Labour councillor who served his community for 30 years 'Voice of town' loses his battle against cancer

By Tom Jennings

A MAN described as "the voice for Chipping Norton", who represented the town as mayor and on all three local councils, has died.

Rob Evans, 64, joined Chipping Norton Town Council 30 years ago and also served on West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

He raised thousands of pounds for the town hall, organised litter picks and was a trustee of the town's Ace children's centre.

Two days before his death on Sunday, he received a merit award for his work for the Labour Party, signed by leader Ed Miliband.

Suzanne McRae, who had known Mr Evans for 30 years, said: "There wasn't much you could dislike about Rob. He was selfless, generous and great company."

"He always wanted to squeeze the last drop out of the day and out of life itself.

He never wanted to admit that time was up and he could do no more – even at the end.

"Cancer has again robbed us of someone willing to put others and the good of the community first."

Duncan Enright, the Labour group leader on West Oxfordshire District Council, said: "He was a great man. He was very bright and incredibly committed to people."

"He understood the fabric of Chipping Norton better than most. He was the voice for Chipping Norton."

Labour district councillor Eve Coles said: "I shall miss Rob a lot. I have known him for 30 years. He was great with the Ace Centre."

Mr Evans was brought up in Bala, Wales, the son of a baker. He spoke Welsh as a first language.

He attended Oswestry



Councillor and former mayor Rob Evans

School in Shropshire and read history at Edinburgh University before training as a teacher in Bristol.

He became a history teacher at Chipping Norton School in 1973, and moved to Banbury Technical College four years later.

He took voluntary redundancy when he was 53,

but continued working as an exam marker and tutor for the Open University.

He was a governor of Chipping Norton School from 1996 to 2009.

He was elected to the town council in 1983 and served on the county council from 1997 to 2005 and the district council since May 2012.

He was mayor of Chipping Norton in 1995 and stepped down from the town council in 2011.

Mr Evans, who was made a free citizen of the town last month, ran guided tours of Chipping Norton.

He had been battling stomach and oesophagus cancer.

Deputy mayor Chris Butterworth said: "Rob was a person who greatly cared for Chippy in every aspect, from cleaning the streets to the bigger issues."

"He was a founding member of the Friends of the Town Hall and in three years managed to collect £18,000 for its upkeep."

District council leader Barry Norton said: "Rob was one of life's real gentlemen and an excellent, hard-working politician."

West Oxfordshire District Council was due to pay tribute to Mr Evans, who was not married and did not have children, yesterday.

InBRIEF

Fundraiser for 999 copter

MORE than 1,000 people are expected to attend a charity beer festival being held in support of an air ambulance service. The festival has been organised by Sam Hoggins, who was airlifted from a crash by the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance three years ago. There is no entry fee for the event at the Brasenose Arms, on Station Road, Cropredy, but all the money raised from the beer tent will go to charity. The event takes place from 3pm on Friday and runs until 7pm on Sunday.

Health advice

BANBURY residents can learn about local groups that offer health activities and services at an event on Saturday. Cherwell District Council will host the Connecting Communities event at the Spiceball Leisure Centre, Cherwell Drive, from 9am to 1pm. Details: 01295 221575.

Interview skills

YOUNG people will be able to get free advice on interview skills at an event run by the charity BYHP at its Chandos Close offices from 10am to 4pm on Thursday, September 12 for people aged 16 to 25. To book, call 01295 259442.

Views sought on planning

VIEWs are being sought on a plan that could have an impact on future housing developments in Deddington.

Deddington Parish Council is to draw up a neighbourhood plan, followed by a public vote.

This will have to be taken into account when Cherwell District Council makes decisions on planning applications for new homes and other developments.

Decision over school bus charges is delayed again

A DECISION on whether to charge school bus fares for parents who don't choose their nearest secondary school will be deferred again. In July, Oxfordshire County Council delayed a decision on whether to save £340,000 by

charging for some home-to-school transport.

It was put back after it was announced the Government reviewed its guidelines on charging for the service.

The council was to revisit the plans in this month, but now says this will happen later because it has not had any guidance from the

Government.

Cabinet member for education Melinda Tilley said: "With each week that ticks by without any update it becomes less likely that we will be able to reconvene this month and then go to cabinet for decision in November."

The Conservative said: "We're completely in the hands of central Government and we will only be able to give people certain dates and times when officials in London have made clear the national framework, within which we and all councils in the country must work. However, it is looking certain that the consultation will begin much later into the autumn."

The council had been hoping to introduce the school bus charges in September 2014, but will now have to wait until 2015 at the earliest.

Campaigners had accused the council of failing to notify schools, governors and parents and not giving them enough time to respond.

More than 1,300 people signed a petition opposing the move.

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InBRIEF**Appeal over plan's veto**

■ AN appeal has been lodged over a council decision to refuse 60 homes in Bloxham. The independent Planning Inspectorate will now make a decision after Cherwell District Council refused permission for homes at land off Tadmarton Road. The council claimed the homes would be "beyond the built-up limits of Bloxham", put pressure on roads and pose a flood risk.

Civic meeting

■ BANBURY residents will be able to meet members of Banbury Town Council to discuss concerns next month. Councillors will hold a surgery in the Town Hall in Bridge Street from 10am to noon on Saturday.

Helpers plea

■ BANBURY'S Samaritans branch is urgently seeking volunteers. It will hold an open day from 8pm to 9pm tonight at its offices at 33 Albert Street. A fundraising concert by Brackley Male Voice Choir will also be held at St John's Church, South Bar, on Saturday, September 28. Details: 01295 264181.

■ Event 'helps understanding of how churches are maintained'

Cyclists are to saddle up to help local churches

HUNDREDS of cyclists and walkers are set to travel between 520 Oxfordshire churches to raise money for charity.

The annual Ride and Stride, organised locally by Oxfordshire Historic Churches

By Charlotte Krol

Trust, will see more than 700 people take part to raise funds for churches on Saturday, September 14, by either walking or cycling. Last year's event raised £120,925, with the funds

split between churches nominated by each participant and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust.

Adderbury resident John Frost, 67, who has been taking part in the event for 20 years, said: "I'm feeling good about it but it gets harder for me every

year. I think it's important because it creates a bigger understanding of how these churches are maintained."

He added that he would give the money he raises to St Mary's Church, Adderbury, where he lives.

Charlotte Holmes, a member of the congregation at St Mary's, said the Ride and Stride helped the church when it needed its roof repaired seven years ago.

She said: "We were trying to find £225,000 and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust gave us a very generous grant from the event."

The Bishop of Dorchester, Rt Rev Colin Fletcher, will also be taking part and previous years have seen the Bishop of Oxford, Rt Rev John Pritchard, join hundreds of riders and striders.

Churches across the county will have forms for people to sign to record their progress on the day and some will have church members greeting the participants.

John Morrison, of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, who is helping organise the Ride and Stride, said he was feeling 'confident' about the amount of money that could be raised.

The 75-year-old said: "It's enormous fun. People go running in groups and local communities support each other.

"We had people riding horses last year and a family with a five-year-old riding a scooter, a two-and-a-half-year old on a skateboard and the smallest child bouncing on a space hopper."

Up to ten per cent of the costs for repair work for churches in the county is provided by the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust via the event.

Basil Eastwood, who works for the trust, said: "It is financially important and it's a good day out."

To find out more about Ride and Stride or to participate, email rideandstride@ohct.org.uk.



John Frost, who will be taking part in the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride' on September 14
OX61417

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Why I owe my life to a hero doctor

By Katriona Ormiston

DESPITE living at risk of sudden death for 12 years, an ex-MoD worker from Banbury put off his heart surgery.

But Tim Betts, heart consultant at the John Radcliffe Hospital, persuaded Carl Portman to have the operation which changed his life.

Mr Portman, now 49, from Hanwell village, nominated Dr Betts as his Hospital Hero.

The awards were launched by the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust to recognise hidden heroes.

Mr Portman said: "It was a huge turning point. I do not let my illness define me anymore."

"I very likely owe my life to his skills and expertise. It has enabled me to continue with my life – to marry the girl of my dreams, to ride with huskies in Norway, to wake to Howler Monkeys in Costa Rica and yes, even to do simple things like walk up the stairs and mow the lawn."

Mr Portman worked for the Ministry of Defence for 30 years before becoming a consultancy company director.

He was diagnosed with a heart condition called arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia at 28 years old.

The genetic defect can cause either sudden cardiac arrest or his heartbeat to rocket dangerously.

Patient has nominated heart expert

But until he was 40, he resisted having an Implanted Cardioverter Device, which acts as pacemaker and defibrillator in one, as he was apprehensive and didn't think it would benefit him.

He finally elected to have the operation after being persuaded by Dr Betts in 2004.

Eight years later he married his wife, Susan, the first girl he ever asked out as a teenager.

Dr Betts, from Beckley, said: "I feel very honoured and touched to have been nominated. It's always rewarding to be appreciated for what you do, even though one doesn't expect it."

"It's nice to know that you have made a positive difference to people's lives. That is, after all, why so many of us are in the healthcare profession."

"It seems unfair to be singled out as I am just part of an excellent team, but at the same time I am extremely pleased."

The Hospital Hero awards give Oxfordshire residents the chance to choose a staff member or a team to thank them for their work.

Only staff employed by Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust at the John Radcliffe, Churchill, Horton hospitals and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre are eligible for the award.

● To nominate someone as a "Hospital Hero", write your name, address, date of birth, telephone number, and email address above the name of the person or team you would like to nominate, along with a 250-word synopsis on why you have nominated them.

The deadline is September 30.

Send your letter to Hospital Heroes, Communications Office, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, Oxford, OX3 9DU. Winners will be announced as part of the Oxford University Hospitals' annual staff awards in November.

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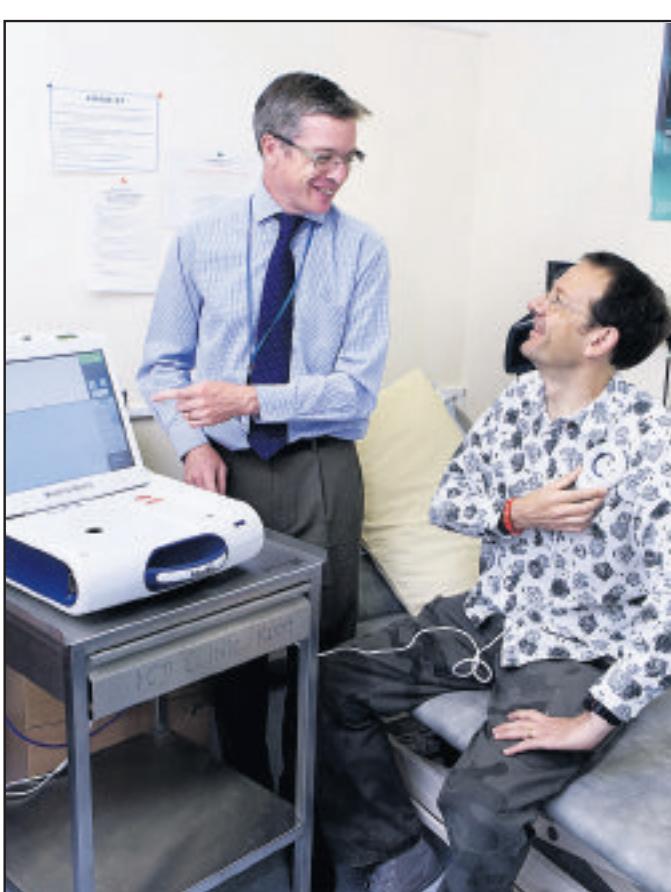
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Dr Tim Betts, who has been nominated as a hospital hero by patient Carl Portman

OX61536

Officer urges nursery refusal

A BID to replace a village nursery should be refused despite a chorus of support, a council planning officer has said.

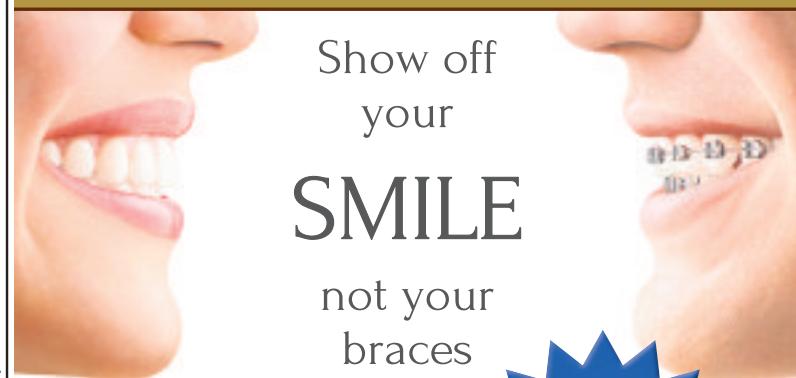
Some 35 letters and a 112-signature petition support the plan for The Village Nursery, Shenington, to go at Shenington Gliding Club, by Rattlecombe Road, near Banbury. Yet Cherwell District Council's

Rebekah Morgan said the plan – which would replace the nursery at Shenington Village Hall – is "not suitably located" as it does not have "suitable" pedestrian links.

The committee will meet at Bodicote House, White Post Road, Bodicote today at 4pm.

The public can attend.

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InBRIEF

Top issues identified

ROAD crimes, theft and anti-social behaviour have been identified as crime-fighting priorities for the Banbury area. The Neighbourhood Action Group survey, involving 681 people, highlighted the issues as concerns. Acting Sergeant Richard Miller, from the Banbury Rural police team, said: "This online survey has aided the NAG in producing a snapshot of community issues and has allowed us to intelligently identify areas of concern."

Bilking hunt

A PETROL thief has taken more than £300 of fuel from garages in the Banbury area. Police are seeking the driver of a stolen silver Nissan Micra, which has made off at least three times from garages without payment, taking more than £100 worth of fuel each time. The crimes happened between August 27 and 29. The driver wore a fluorescent jacket and had cans in the car to fill up. Anyone with information is asked to call police on 101.

■ Young dancers earn honour of appearing on stage with top professionals

Ballet dream comes true

YOUNG dancers from across Oxfordshire are mastering ballet moves at rehearsals for a production of *Swan Lake*.

Fifty-five young dancers have been selected by the English Youth Ballet Company to appear in three performances of Tchaikovsky's ballet at Oxford's New Theatre in September.

Among those taking part are Sophie Laing, 15, Amy Matthews, 15, Darcey Shaw, nine, and Rachel Thompson, 12.

The dancers who come from all over the county were selected at auditions in May

By Andrew Ffrench

from over 250 hopefuls and began 10 days of rehearsals on Wednesday at the Oxford Academy in Littlemore.

They will perform alongside the youth ballet's principal artists in a production to gain an insight into what life is like as a professional ballet dancer.

Darcey, who trains at the Bernadine Soul School of Dance, said: "I'm nine now and I started dancing at the age of two. I love the way ballet is so graceful and flowing."

"I am looking forward to performing. When I grow up I would like to be a ballet teacher or a gym coach."

Each rehearsal starts with the company being split into three groups for warm-ups.

At the end of the rehearsals, the company will discuss what has been learned.

Assistant artistic director Julianne Rice-Oxley said: "The young dancers we are working with have great energy and attack."

The production is being staged at the theatre in George Street, Oxford, on Friday, September 20, at 7.30pm and on Saturday, September 21, at 2.30pm and at 7.30pm.

Visit newtheatreoxford.org.uk

Police issue alert after spate of thefts in Banbury

RESIDENTS in and around Banbury have been told to stay vigilant following a spate of burglaries.

Significant amounts of jewellery, cash, clothing and even cars have been stolen from 15 homes and drives in just over a month.

Police say it is too early to say if the crimes are linked but have not ruled it out.

The first occurred on July 16 at Homestead Road on the Cherwell Heights estate in Banbury where a grey Mercedes C350 estate AMG sport was stolen.

Later the same day a distraction burglary was disrupted at a house in Gillet Road, Banbury, after the victim spotted two men inside his house.

And the same day in



ABOVE: Local youngsters start their intensive rehearsals for *Swan Lake*

LEFT: Their instructors show them how to hold their poses

Pictures:
RYAN COWAN

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■ Honour for the founder of multiple sclerosis support group

Young MS sufferer Jo 'an inspiration to all'

NURSE Jo Hardiman was a 27-year-old newlywed when she was first diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

Eight years on, the disease may have cost her her job, her marriage and her dreams of becoming a mother, but it has made her an inspiration to some of the county's other young MS sufferers.

Jo Hardiman, from Chipping Norton, has received this year's Oxford MS Young Inspiration Award.

The annual award was given to Ms Hardiman for her work setting up and organising MSsy – a young MS sufferers' group – as well as for her continuing support for fellow sufferers.

One of many touching citations read out during the awards said: "Jo exudes positivity and proves herself to be a considerate and informative friend to many MSers."

Ms Hardiman, a former cancer nurse, said: "It was a real highlight in eight very difficult years.

"My parents were really thrilled, but to be truthful I don't feel like I am doing anything really special."

She had just celebrated her 27th birthday, in May, 2005, when she started to experience extreme tiredness.

The fatigue, coupled with excruciating headaches, led to her taking time off work as a nurse.

She said: "I had not long started work as a nurse, but I soon found it was too hard to cope.

"I had to wait six months before I could see a consultant because of the fatigue. So, in December, I was diagnosed with ME."

But one night in January 2006, she set her alarm for work and when she woke, she found she could not move her right arm.

She said her first thought was: "Oh my God, I'm 27 and I have had a stroke."

A CT scan detected damage to some nerves in her brain.

Other scans followed and doctors told Jo and her husband, Tim, they suspected she had the condition Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis, which sometimes occurs after a virus and can cause scarring of the brain tissue.

But fatigue, headaches, and paralysis followed and in August 2005 she was finally diagnosed with MS, a neurological disease in which a patient's nerves are slowly destroyed, affecting movement,

By Debbie Waite

speech and many other body functions.

She said: "On one hand I felt like clapping because at least the MS had been confirmed.

"On the other hand it was very upsetting to know I was just 27 and had MS."

Then, after suffering a huge relapse in September 2006, doctors told her that her MS was particularly aggressive and she was offered chemotherapy.

Her parents moved to Chipping Norton to help with her care and in 2007

she finally gave up all hope of returning to work.

After the chemotherapy therapy, Jo regained some feeling in her hand but was still weak down her right side. Since January, 2007, has had to inject herself every day with a disease-inhibiting drug called Copaxone.

She now uses a motorised scooter to get around.

She said: "MS has changed my life completely.

"My husband, Tim, and I sadly separated.

"Of course I get angry...but my philosophy has always been to just get on with life. As a result, I have done

things, met people and set up MSsy."

In 2008, Jo went along to a physio group. She said: "It was a lovely group, but most of the people there were older than me. I wanted to talk to younger people, so I put an advert on the MS Society Internet forum asking if there were other young sufferers in Oxfordshire who wanted to meet up.

"There wasn't a lot of interest at first, but a few of us started to meet and enjoy nights out. There are now around 25 people on the books."

She set up the group MSsy in 2010 and explained: "We decided to call the group MSsy because we are messy, our lives are messy and so is our handwriting."

Since being diagnosed with MS, Jo has also been parachuting to raise funds for her local MS Society branch and, in May, the eighth anniversary of when she first became ill, she abseiled down the front of the JR Hospital, Oxford, for the Radcliffe Trust's Cancer Care Fund.

Through the charity Sportability, she and her fellow MSsy members also regularly enjoy microlighting and gliding.

For more details, email: mssy.oxfordshire@gmail.com



Jo Hardiman, who has received an award for setting up the MS support group MSsy

OX61402

Illegal workers found at hospitals

ILLEGAL workers and people with a criminal record have been employed at Oxfordshire's hospitals.

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust has employed two illegal workers since 2010 and currently has 14 nursing staff with criminal records. Freedom of Information requests have revealed.

The trust employed an illegal immigrant as a linen room assistant at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, and a nurse at the children's ward in the Horton General in Banbury.

The pair were discovered to be working illegally in 2012 and 2011, respectively, and have since been sacked.

A separate report revealed that 14 nursing staff currently employed by the trust have a criminal record – either a conviction or caution.

The trust said it no longer had details of the crimes because, in line with the Data Protection Act, it had been more than six months since the CRB disclosures.

OUHT deputy director of workforce Carl Jenkinson said:

"Applicants and members of staff with criminal convictions/cautions are subject to robust risk assessments to determine whether they are fit to be employed or be retained given the nature and age of the conviction/caution."

He said both illegal workers provided "full and relevant" documentation to get the jobs, but discrepancies were later found.

NHS Counter Fraud was alerted and, following an investigation, both employees were dismissed.

InBRIEF

School wins sports award

■ **SIBFORD School, Banbury, has been recognised for its commitment to sport. The independent Sibford Ferris Quaker school has been awarded a bronze validation under the Government-led Sainsbury's School Games Kitemark. School head of sport Richard Ferley said: "A significant factor in our eligibility for this award is the increased involvement in competitions that our pupils have been able to enjoy."**

Cycle link-up

■ **NEW safety measures for Banbury cyclists are being drawn up. Oxfordshire County Council is proposing to develop a comprehensive walking and cycle network between Ermont Way, Hennef Way and Middleton Road. Minor improvements are also proposed on Daventry Road. It is hoped that the scheme will improve transport links between employment sites in Grimsbury and residential areas. The council's consultation closes on September 27. Visit bit.ly/16ifezN**

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Trevor Skidmore feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Oxford, Banbury & Abingdon areas and Trevor is finding that his approach is a major factor

in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Trevor a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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Cut Out and Save...



Barry Lever (owner) of Complete Eyecare, Banbury explained how his recent investment of over £50,000 in new screening technologies should help reduce the amount of patients seen at the surgeries and hospitals in Oxfordshire with the early onset of sight loss from conditions such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and even cancer in the eye

What is this new technology and what does it do?

We have invested in 2 main pieces of screening equipment in practice this year. The first being a technique called O.C.T, or Ocular Coherence Tomography. Using light rays in a similar manner to ultrasound we are able to scan the retina at the back of the eye and more importantly all the sub layers beneath this, which are not visible when performing a standard eye test.

Our other investment has been in the monitoring of Macular Degeneration. We are the only practice in Banbury to offer MPS screening to our patients.

This equipment calculates your individual Macular Pigment Density levels enabling us to give advice on how to increase those levels.

How does OCT work and how much does it cost?

Because OCT uses light rays like ultrasound uses sound, it means we can now go beneath the surface of the retina and macula to detect early changes in the cellular structure at the back of the eye. In a lot of cases before any permanent damage to vision has occurred.

We can pinpoint where the issue is and with amazingly detailed reporting give your GP everything needed to best refer you for successful treatment.

At £40.00 per patient this screening is perfect in giving our patients peace of mind that their eyes are healthy. To our knowledge this equipment isn't available with any group opticians in Banbury.

What is Macular Degeneration and why screen for it?

AMD or Age Related Macular Degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in people in their over 50's.

The macula is the most central and sensitive area at the back of the eye. It is protected by a yellow pigment which blocks harmful blue light from the sun from damaging the macula.

Age, smoking, poor diet and genetics have all been linked to the reduction in density of this pigment. People suffering from Macular Degeneration suffer severely with loss of central vision, distorted images and loss of colours in everything they see.

By the time the symptoms of AMD are obvious it can be too late to do anything about your vision loss. Screening for your pigment density gives us an accurate idea of your risks from AMD.

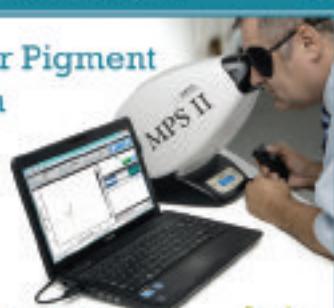
How can you reduce the risk of AMD?

If your screening shows that you have a low pigment density, there are a variety of specialised supplements which can be taken. You can look more closely at your diet, increasing the amount of fresh vegetables and fish. You can stop smoking and possibly reduce alcohol intake. All of which have been shown to effect pigment.

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■ Crimes cost is cut by £144,000 82 criminals win help to go straight

A SCHEME aimed at cutting the number of convicted criminals reoffending in the county has been hailed a success.

There are 82 Oxfordshire criminals on the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme, run by Thames Valley Police.

The force says that, due to the initiative, re-arrests of those taking part have fallen 54 per cent in the first six months of the year compared to the same period last year. It estimates this has reduced the cost of crimes they commit by £144,120.

The aim of the project is to manage the small number of offenders who cause a disproportionate amount of crime.

This includes supporting the probation service and other agencies in securing housing, employment, or help with drug and alcohol addiction, in the hope of

By Ben Wilkinson

cutting down on their offending.

The criminals in the scheme are closely monitored and, if they do not take up the support and commit crime, they are arrested and taken to prison.

Chief Insp Jason Purnell, Thames Valley Police lead for IOM, said: "By tackling the problems which cause an individual to offend, their need to commit crime is often removed and their re-offending reduces as a result."

"IOM can make a real difference to reducing offending in our communities and I am pleased with the results the team has had so far this year, which shows in real terms the reduction in the cost of crime."

Thames Valley Police refused to provide a list of those participating in the scheme.

InCOURT

Verdicts from magistrates' courts around the county

■ **GREG AUSTIN**, 21, of Belgrave Crescent, Banbury, admitted failing to protect a black and white male cat named Bobbin from pain, suffering, injury or disease by failing to adequately treat his flea infestation between December 3 last year and January 1 last year in Belgrave Crescent, Banbury. Given a 12-month conditional discharge and told to pay a £15 victims' surcharge and £250 costs.

■ **STUART GRAY**, 22, of Bretch Hill, Banbury, admitted drink-driving and driving without insurance in Banbury on July 23. Had 77mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, above the legal limit of 35mg. Given 20-month driving ban and fined £320. Told to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **JAMES COOPER**, 29, of West Street, Banbury, admitted stealing alcohol worth £21 from a Co-op in Middleton Road, Banbury, on June 5. Community order made with activity and supervision requirements. Told to pay a £60 victims' surcharge and £40 costs.

■ **IAN MURRAY**, 23, of Boxhedge Road West, Banbury, admitted

assaulting PC Victoria Channon in the execution of her duty in Chipping Norton on July 7 and stealing a Bluetooth kit and vehicle documents in Chipping Norton on July 6. Given a 16-week prison sentence suspended for 12 months with a 12-month supervision requirement, an activity requirement and 100 hours of unpaid work. Told to pay a £60 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **ADAM WHITTAKER**, 31, of Greenfields, Upper Arncott, convicted of failing to hand over his ticket for inspection on a train on a journey between Birmingham Snow Hill and Bicester on April 17. Fined £200 and told to pay £17.10 compensation, a £20 victims' surcharge and £125 costs.

■ **MICHAEL HULLA**, 32, of Edmund's Road, Banbury, admitted possessing crack cocaine, a Class-A drug, at Banbury Police Station, Warwick Road, Banbury, on June 29. Fined £215 and told to pay a £21 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **PHILLIP HALL**, 26, of Sibford Gower, admitted travelling on a

train without paying a fare of £4.50 between Bicester North and Banbury on April 19. Fined £230 and told to pay £4.50 compensation, a £23 victims' surcharge and £125 costs.

■ **MATTHEW PADLEY**, 20, of Butts Close, Aynho, admitted drink-driving in Aynho Road, Adderbury, on June 2. Had 99mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood, above the legal limit of 80mg. Banned from driving for 12 months and fined £200, a £20 victims' surcharge, and £85 costs.

■ **BRAIN KELLY**, 42, of Deacon Way, Banbury, convicted of sexual assault in Bridge Street, Banbury, on March 19. Community order made with a supervision requirement. Told to pay £300 compensation and a £60 victims' surcharge.

■ **NAQASH HUSSAIN**, 23, of Prescott Avenue, Banbury, convicted of wilfully obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty in Banbury on April 4. Also admitted driving in Southam Road, Banbury, without a licence on April 4. Fined £240 and a £20 victims' surcharge

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SEE ME SMILE Happy, quiet, caring and reliable Oxford lady, 42, 5'2", simply searching for a tactile, fun and gentle-natured gent, for friendship, lasting happiness and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142441 or send a text to 80360

YOUNG AND BUBBLY Youthful, widowed Swindon female, 43, 5'3", blonde hair, enjoys nights out and the cinema, would like to meet an affectionate, open, honest man, for lasting love and a happy future. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 149682 or send a text to 80360

FOR STARTERS... Loving, caring Oxford mum, 45, genuine, active, attractive, enjoys theatre, cinema, walks, nights in, seeks similar family man, funny and kind, for friendship first. Let's see what happens. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114046

QUALITY TIMES Sunny, loving, divorced, loyal Swindon girl, 46, 5'3", average-build, likes restaurants, walks, travelling, looking to find a tactful, endearing male, for love and an honest future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138116

ENJOY AND SHARE LIFE Attractive, divorced Melksham lady, 46, 5'5", red hair, green eyes, grown up children, loves the outdoors, travel, animals and family life, seeking a genuine guy, 40-50, for true romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138266 or send a text to 80360

OF A GENUINE DESCRIPTION Laid-back Swindon female, 47, still looking for my Mr Right, to share and enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126129

I NEED A HERO Charming, positive Trowbridge female, 47, 5'4", brunette, fun-loving, likes balance and harmony in her life, searching for that special guy. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145473 or send a text to 80360

IT COULD BE US Spiritual, genuine Didcot woman, 47, attractive, fun, have grown up children, likes clubs, cafes, music, films, walking and reading, seeking a caring and optimistic man, for friendship first. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 125828 or send a text to 80360

WITH OR WITHOUT YOU Emotional, reliable and sensitive Witney girl, 48, 5'5", just looking to meet an independent, reflective gent, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 140276 or send a text to 80360

SMOOTH MOVE Slim, blue-eyed Trowbridge female, 49, 5'2", GSOH, easy to get on with, enjoys nights out, walks and more, searching for an honest, active, interesting man. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109958 or send a text to 80360

START AFRESH Friendly, kind-hearted, curvaceous Faringdon woman, 50, 5'7", enjoys entertaining for family and friends, looking for a life-loving, honest male, for friendship and a fresh start in life. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147608 or send a text to 80360

ANYTHING GOES Pensive, straightforward and wise Swindon female, 50, seeking an inventive, laid-back male, for happiness, love and laughter. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137863

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 52, 5'7", grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man there for me? Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 798804

LOOKING FOR HAPPINESS Petite, blonde Westbury lady, 53, enjoys days out and car boot sales, searching for a decent, clean cut, honest man, aged between 50-60, for good times, great company and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 148940 or send a text to 80360

SOMEONE EXACTLY LIKE YOU Caring, lovely, bubbly Bicester lady, 54, looking for a tall, kind, caring and romantic man for a lasting loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 118921 or send a text to 80360

I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT Sincere Swindon woman, 55, GSOH, fun personality, loves nights out, socialising and music, seeks a friendly bloke, to share lots of good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 116161 or send a text to 80360

GENUINE AND CARING Oxfordshire widow, 62, 5'6", slender build, sociable, caring and well-travelled, searching for a genuine, professional guy, non-smoker, for friendship, maybe lasting love. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 466487

LET'S ENJOY LIFE Vibrant, sincere Witney female, 63, loves meeting people, good conversations, going out & about, walks, theatre, looking for a similar chap, for companionship and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142189

TAKE YOU BY THE HAND Sincere Swindon lady, 65, non smoker, GSOH, medium build, blonde hair, enjoys walks, socialising, nights in/out, looking for a friendly, caring man to get some fun back into life. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 151273

COMPLETE THE PICTURE Attractive, honest Swindon lady, 65, 5'5", loves cinema, theatre, national trust, walks, would like to meet a tall, non-smoking gent, under 70 with a GSOH. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 140415 or send a text to 80360

DAYS OUT Sensitive, genuine, widowed Warminster female, 66, would like to meet an active, outgoing male, for friendship, days out together and laughter. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 146802 or send a text to 80360

COUNTRY WALKS Country-loving lady, early 70s, wishing to meet sincere gentleman, for companionship, to share the good things in life; dining out, places of interest. Golfer, loves animals. GSOH, Marlborough area. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 149564 or send a text to 80360

FIRENDS FIRST Intelligent, attractive Witney female, 57, widow, blonde, 5'2", likes radio 4, reading, travel, art galleries and gym, new to area and seeking a similar guy. GSOH, for company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 124892 or send a text to 80360

MEANINGFUL TIMES Active, outgoing Trowbridge female, 58, loves tennis, seaside, travelling and animals, would like to meet a man for company leading to a possible relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 139676

OUR MOMENT Caring, widow, 81, medium build, loves animals, visiting places of interest, gardening, and cooking, looking for a honest, kind, gentleman for a sincere relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 151288

THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 61, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100451

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SHARE SOME TIME Adaptable, upbeat and optimistic Oxford man, 33, would like to find a warm, laid-back girl, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134837

FRIENDLY COMPANION Friendly Kidlington male, 35, 5'8", blue eyes, smoker, loves pub meals and cosy times in, seeking a female, for love and romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141512 or send a text to 80360

ENERGIZER TIME Honest, friendly and charming Oxford male, 45, 6'3", stocky build, great sense of humour, enjoys sport, travel, cosy times and social drinks, seeking a fun-loving female, for happier times. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send a text to 80360

CARING & CONSIDERATE Kind-hearted, active Oxford man, 37, enjoys staying fit, playing sports and fine dining with friends and family, would like to meet a similar female, for companionship and love. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147290 or send a text to 80360

NIGHTS FULL OF FUN Outgoing, black Oxford male, 45, 5'8", medium build, no ties, enjoys going to clubs, darts, snooker, pool, socialising, nights out, for fun times and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 148289 or send a text to 80360

MY MATCH Blue-eyed male, early 40s, own home, self-employed, searching for a fun-loving black woman, for great times. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145981 or send a text to 80360

FUN AND ADVENTURE Professional, caring male, 46, 5'9", N/S, own home and car, enjoys days out to the seaside, seeking young-at-heart, honest lady, to spend quality time with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 146399 or send a text to 80360

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted, easygoing, tactile Witney biker, 42, 6ft, stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130080

PERFECT HARMONY Fun-loving, easygoing, tactile Witney biker, 42, 6ft, stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108035

THE LIFE OF THE PARTY Shy yet sincere Banbury male, 47, would like to meet an honest, bubbly, faithful woman, for loving times and to share a happy future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145482 or send a text to 80360

LOTS TO GIVE Easygoing, reliable, lovable Bicester male, 48, 5'7", looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 143400 or send a text to 80360

LOVE TO HAVE A LAUGH Hardworking Oxford male, 51, 5'7", brown hair, own flat, likes socialising, cooking, nights in, seeks nice young lady for friendship leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 121027 or send a text to 80360

PURE KINDNESS Blue-eyed Bicester male, 52, 5'10", own home, self-employed, searching for a loving African woman for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 144560 or send a text to 80360

PASSION FLOWER Youthful, friendly Oxford chap, 60, 5'9", dark hair, enjoys cinema, bowling, active days out and socialising, searching for a loving, happy and loyal woman, to build a lasting relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132140

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing Wantage male, 52, own car, works full-time, likes most sports, would like to meet an outgoing female, for good times leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 135164 or send a text to 80360

TIME FOR A CHANGE Friendly, expressive and vibrant Kidlington male, 52, with plenty of interests in life, would like to meet a life-loving, interesting lady, to share love, laughter and the future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114479

ALL TO LOVE Kind and caring Oxfordshire male, 53, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, searching for a nice, genuine girl for friendship first, then maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 461278

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Banbury man, 55, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132836

LIVE FOR THE MOMENT Sincere Banbury male, 56, 5'10", hard working, into DIY, walks and alternative therapies, now searching for an open and honest woman, for loving times. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 144938 or send a text to 80360

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BE THERE FOR ME Honest, caring wiltshire woman, 52, seeking straight female friends, for socialising, outings and good company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 113955

LUCKY CHARM Serious, lovely and imaginative Malmesbury lady, 55, simply searching for an attractive, interesting girl, for a special and lasting relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134242

FRIENDSHIPS WITH FEMALES Straight, kind Bicester woman, 68, retired and missing the social aspect of work so looking to find some female friends or an established social group, for days out and friendship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147186 or send a text to 80360

FLOW WITH JOY Mature, active Didcot male, 48, would like to meet a non-smoking male, for good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141305

PUTTING THE SPARK BACK Easy-going, stocky built Oxford guy, 50, blue eyes, likes pub, cinema, the arts, looking for a similar man 55-60, for companionship and hopefully we'll see where it leads to. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115976 or send a text to 80360

BE YOUR SIDE Blue-eyed liberal Oxford male, 52, 6'3", searching for a nice guy, for fun, friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 125948

MAKE A CONNECTION Interesting, friendly Oxford male, 64, varied interests, loves walks, reading, travel and more, seeks sensitive male, similar age, for a loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 857624

THAT'S ALL FOR NOW... Easygoing, friendly Didcot male, 66, enjoys walks, theatre, cosy times in, socialising, seeks a friendly, active chap, for company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 131800 or send a text to 80360

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Fun at the Feastival . . . and for dessert, a Samba finale

By Marc Evans

THE self-styled Cotswolds Supergroup rounded off Oxfordshire's festival season in Samba-style at Alex James and Jamie Oliver's Big Feastival.

The Blur bassist and the celebrity chef – and part-time drummer – joined the eccentric Latin group the Cuban Brothers on stage at the food and music festival on Mr James' farm in Kingham.

The festival, in its second year under the current promotions team, enjoyed glorious weather and packed crowds for its mix of bands, singers, cooking demonstrations, childrens' activities and crafts.

Take That star Mark Owen, hip hop group Rizzle Kicks, soul singer Lianne La Havas, dance duo Basement Jaxx, singer-songwriter KT Tunstall, popsters The Feeling and DJ Norman Jay provided the musical highlights during the festival, which opened on Friday and closed on Sunday night.

On the cooking front, TV chefs Rachel Khoo, of The Little Paris Kitchen, and Valentine Warner were joined by Michelin-starred Tom Kitchin and Mr Oliver's mentor, Gennaro Contaldo, and others to share a few recipe tips, while children's entertainer Justin Fletcher, of CBeebies, got things under way on the main stage on Sunday.

Mr Oliver said: "It's all about family, music and food."

"It's an eccentric festival and quite geeky, but it's about looking after the parents and the kids."

Father-of-five Mr James added: "It's one of my highlights of the year. My kids go absolutely crackers for it."

"It's a hell of a lot of work but it's



a dream come true, really.

"Jamie and I went down on Friday night and saw all the lights and the dads dancing with their children on their shoulders and it almost moved me to tears."

Giles Hill, 40, from Finstock, enjoyed a roaring trade over the weekend with his Paelleria, dishing up about 2,000 portions of the Spanish food.

He said: "We were here last year and I would say it seems about 25 per cent bigger this time. We had people queueing across the field."

Also doing a good trade was Oxford's Big Bang.

The restaurant was selling its speciality sausages for foodies to cook on the barbecues provided on site or to take home.

Stall worker Ben Ashton, 15, said: "We've had a pretty good response. We've sold out of guinea fowl and ginger."

Saturday was a sell-out, while figures for Sunday were still being added up – but organisers had expected there to have been about 20,000 visitors during the festival.



RIGHT; Crowds pack in BELOW:
Alex back on bass
BELOW LEFT: Mark Owen, of Take That
BELOW BOTTOM:
Basement Jaxx in action

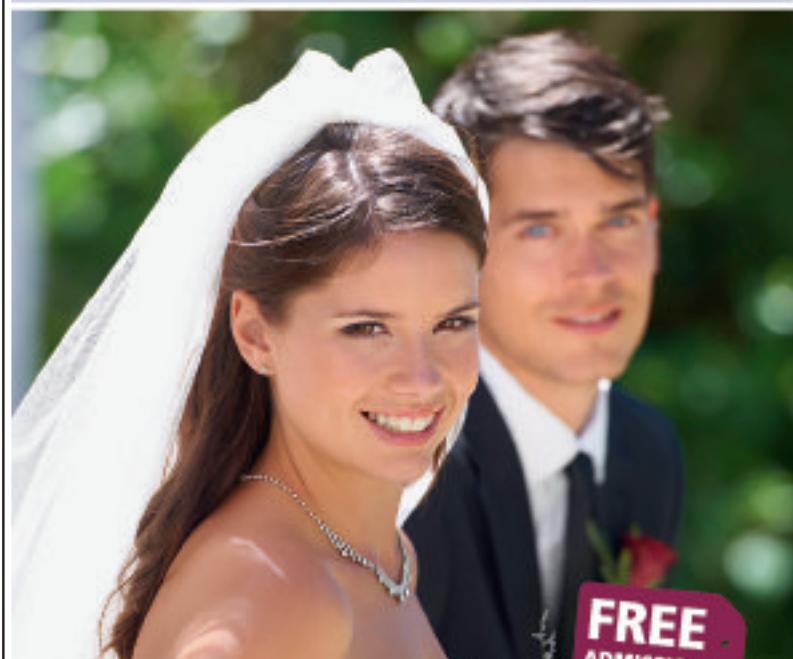


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LEFT: Jamie Oliver offering cooking tips

BELOW: Alex James and Jamie Oliver perform with the Cuban Brothers

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CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport

Injury time shock for Utd

BANBURY United suffered a last-gasp agony as they went down to an injury-time defeat at Spencer Stadium on Saturday.

The result condemned Banbury to their third Premier Division defeat.

With the game going into injury time, Banbury had hopes of holding on for a point after Kynan Isaac cancelled out Alex Ferguson's opener, but Connor Waldron put paid to that.

Banbury started the brighter and almost went ahead on eight minutes. Isaac's cross found Adeyinka Talabi, but his shot was blocked.

Banbury continued to dominate, with Tom Ryan's header going narrowly past the far post.

Banbury United 1
(Isaac 80)
Frome Town 2
(Ferguson 45+1, Waldron 90+1)

The hosts had a lucky escape when Ferguson hit the Banbury bar.

However, they did not heed the warning and Frome went ahead five minutes before half-time.

Ferguson broke through the Banbury defence before lifting the ball over Ben McNamara from just outside the penalty area.

Banbury went close to levelling a minute after the re-start.

Isaac cut inside and saw Darren

Chitty palm away his shot.

Banbury pushed for an equaliser and it arrived 11 minutes from time.

Isaac ran on to a through ball, outpacing a Frome defender before lobbing the advancing Chitty from the edge of the penalty area.

Two minutes, Chitty denied Adeyinka Talabi with a super save.

But a minute into stoppage time, Waldron headed in the winner for Frome to ruin Banbury's day.

Banbury Utd: McNamara, Blossom, Westwood, Bridges, Mbarahar, Ryan, Talabi, Fraser-Allen, Menezes (Pinto 63), Isaac, Morgan (Soetan 90). Subs not used: McNulty, Kemoagna, Martin.

Attendance: 182.



Kyman Isaac lobs over keeper Darraen Chitty for Banbury's equaliser

STARS with Claire Petulengro



Service provided by IMS Leeds LS1 8LB. Calls cost 60p per minute at all times

ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19

You're hiding from what's really going on, even though there is a feeling of excitement bubbling away. Take these good feelings and run with them Aries. Life can be good again, just you have to make more of a conscious effort to distance yourself from those who are dragging you down. Give me a call now to hear why it's worth saving for long distance travel I predict for you.

0906 585 4360

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Your destiny is presenting itself to you, so why are you not taking any notice Libra? Your ruling planet Venus is trying to draw your attention to those who draw you in, but you're wasting valuable time. Mars causes friction in a family situation which would be better handled with one on one talks rather than group arguments. Give me a ring now to hear how new romances link to travel.

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TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

A stubborn mood is setting in and if you don't fight it now Taurus, then you could end up upsetting those you care most about. Talk to them with family this weekend can help you find some common ground; what you have to do is be willing to admit your own faults as well as theirs. Give me a ring now to hear how Saturn can get your finances back into credit again.

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GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

You can either continue trying to work on your own or you can accept the help which these around you are trying to offer to you. Of course there are those who want to see you fail, and to those people you must pay no attention. The glass is half full if you'd look at it from the right angle my friend. Foreign contacts improve your personal life. Give me a ring for a full reading.

0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

Your emotions are all over the place and until you talk to the person concerned instead of a third party, then you are never going to find out how things really stand. Promises you make in your career this week must be honored, or you're going to lose the support of the most important person in your career. Give me a ring to hear how Saturn can help you to better balance your life.

0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

There are many opportunities before you at the moment and it's your right to choose what you say yes to. Just remember that you are the one who gets to decide. You have the gift of decision making and don't let anyone pressure you or talk you out of what you know in your heart to be right for you. Give me a call now to hear which new coupling is sure to bring surprise to you.

0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Be prepared to have to go with the flow this week as nothing is going to go exactly to plan. By keeping an open mind you'll find friends in high places you never previously knew existed. This is a really good week to think about investing in further education. Important faces will soon know your name. Give me a ring now to hear why it's time you shared that secret you're keeping.

0906 585 4365

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

If you decide to hang on to bad memories from the past then you are going to feel down and depressed. Focus on all that can be done in the here and now though. The future is bright, all you have to do is start to make the choices rather than allowing others to tell you what you can and cannot do my friend. Give me a call to make peace with those distanced family members.

0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

You may not like some of the happenings which you've experienced this year, but they have all made you who you are and I love the person you've become. Don't let relationships move at too quick a pace. Enjoy the moment or you'll miss out on getting to know what new faces are really like. Give me a ring now to hear how the Sun favors you cutting ties with 'that' bad influence.

0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

You may have to say out for people who wouldn't do the same for you, but it's up to you to weigh up what the benefits can be. Money you spend in the name of travel can help you to get further in your career, so don't hold back just because others cannot see your visions through your eyes yet. Give me a ring now to hear how Venus takes a flirtation to a new level.

0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Good times link to you getting rid of the hangers on in your life and learning that it's ok to mix with people who give as well as take from you. You've been through so much in the last twelve months that certain signs managed to knock your confidence but it's being built up day by day, hour by hour. All you have to do is say what's in your heart from now on. Ring now for a peek at what's to come.

0906 585 4370

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20

If you have any forms to fill out, emails to send or phone calls to make then do it before Tuesday please. You still need to prove that you can keep to your word and events last week have left certain of your close ones with doubt in their mind. Travel plans you lay at this time make for a much improved personal life. Give me a call now to hear why I'm so excited about your love life.

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It's growing pains again with laughter and tears

THE WAY WAY BACK (12A, 103 mins) Comedy/Drama/Romance. Liam James, Toni Collette, Steve Carell, Zoe Levin, Sam Rockwell, AnnaSophia Robb, Allison Janney, Rob Corddry, Amanda Peet, Maya Rudolph, River Alexander. Directors: Nat Faxon, Jim Rash.

Driving obvious comparisons with Little Miss Sunshine, The Way Way Back is a bittersweet coming-of-age story that strikes the perfect balance between laughter and tears.

First-time directors Nat Faxon and Jim Rash have fashioned a near perfect portrait of adolescent angst that eschews mawkish sentimentality yet still manages to tug the heartstrings with aplomb.

Our affection for the film's painfully shy, teenage hero is galvanised in a blistering opening scene in which the lad is asked by his mother's new boyfriend to rate himself out of 10.

"I don't know – six?" responds the lad nervously, after a considerable amount of deliberation.

"I think you're a three," retorts the boyfriend coldly, who clearly hasn't read the chapter on positive encouragement in his parenting handbook.

Fourteen-year-old Duncan (Liam James) wanted to spend the summer vacation with his father in San Diego. Instead, he's being forced to tolerate a holiday on the East Coast with his mother Pam (Toni Collette), her new boyfriend Trent (Steve

Carell) and Trent's tearaway teenage daughter Steph (Zoe Levin), who doesn't want to be lumbered with a socially awkward misfit like Duncan when she could be sunbathing with her gal pals.

Feeling desperately alone in Trent's beach house, Duncan ventures to a nearby Water Wizz theme park where the wise-cracking owner Owen (Sam Rockwell) takes pity on the miserable teenager and hires him for the summer.

"I need someone to do some odd jobs, clean up some vomit," grins Owen.

Keeping the job secret from his mother, Duncan gains confidence under his reckless mentor, who only has eyes for his sassy employee, Caitlin (Maya Rudolph). The lad musters the courage to strike up a conversation with Susanna (AnnaSophia Robb), who lives in a neighbouring beach house with her boozy and indiscreet mother, Betty (Allison Janney).

Meanwhile, Pam's relationship with Trent shows signs of wear and tear, exacerbated by the continued presence of his vivacious friend Joan (Amanda Peet) and her clueless partner, Kip (Rob Corddry).

The Way Way Back is a delight.

Faxon and Rash's first feature navigates a haphazard path through Duncan's growing pains with tenderness. The script spares the characters few blushes as they seek tiny glimmers of self-fulfilment.

James delivers an impressive, emotionally raw performance, and he is the perfect foil for Rockwell's



A scene from the film *The Way Way Back*, with Steve Carell, as Trent; Toni Collette, as Pam, and Alison Janney, as Betty

Picture: PA Photo/Fox UK

CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY: Musketeer, Ruscote Avenue, Banbury: Pete McCray. With soul and reggae. Free admission. 9pm. 01295 269296.

The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Carthy and Swarbrick. Two folk legends, Martin Carthy and Dave Swarbrick present an evening of folk music. £15, conc £13. 7.45pm. 01608 642350 Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10am-2pm.

The Wheatsheaf, 68 george street, Banbury: Lost innocence. Female fronted band from Maidenhead. 8pm. Free. 01295 266525.

SATURDAY: General Foods Sports and Social Club, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury:

Banbury Soul Club's annual charity event. Playing classic northern soul and motown, all on original vinyl records. Guest DJ's Topsy Turvey and Ledders plus Residents Charlie Mc, Steve Milsom and Tom H. This event is in memory of our dear friend Dave Bailey. Friendly atmosphere, large wooden dance floor for those that

love to dance, and plenty of seating. 8pm. £5. 077943 793417 and 07528 285977.

The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Dire Streets (Straits tribute band), £16, conc £14. 7.45pm. 01608 642350 Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 10am-2pm.

SUNDAY: The Wheatsheaf, 68 George Street, Banbury: Aurora Young and Steve Cooper. Award winning singer and song writer Aurora J Young possesses a unique and powerful voice with superb songwriting skills, her return to this local humble pub is a very special present from Aurora to the Landlady for her leaving. 4-6pm. 01295 266525.

Theatre

The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:

Sept 7, Season of the Heart - tribute to John Denver by Ivor George. 7.30pm. With Ivor is Richard Spong, a strings specialist fitting into Denver's musical niche. £18 (adv £16) concessions available.

Sep 11, *The Collector*. A butterfly collector abducts an art student

imprisoning her in the cellar of his remote home. Their tense, claustrophobic relationship leads to a devastating climax. £10, concession £8. 7.45pm. Box office: 01295 279002.

The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton:

Sep 5, *The Misunderstood Dr Beeching*. Shane Morgan's one-man show is a Wikipedic evening of storytelling, fact finding and legend building about the man often referred to as being Britain's most hated civil servant, who oversaw the transformation of the British railway network and the closure of many rural lines. Using real life accounts, uncovered anecdotes and seemingly unconnected facts this evening marks the 50th Anniversary of Beeching's Reshaping of British Railways

7.45pm. £13, concession (booking fee £1 for all tickets).

Sep 10, *Winston on the Run*. Experience the coming-of-age of Britain's greatest hero 7.45pm. £14, concession £12. Box office: 01608 642350.

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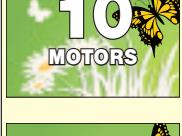
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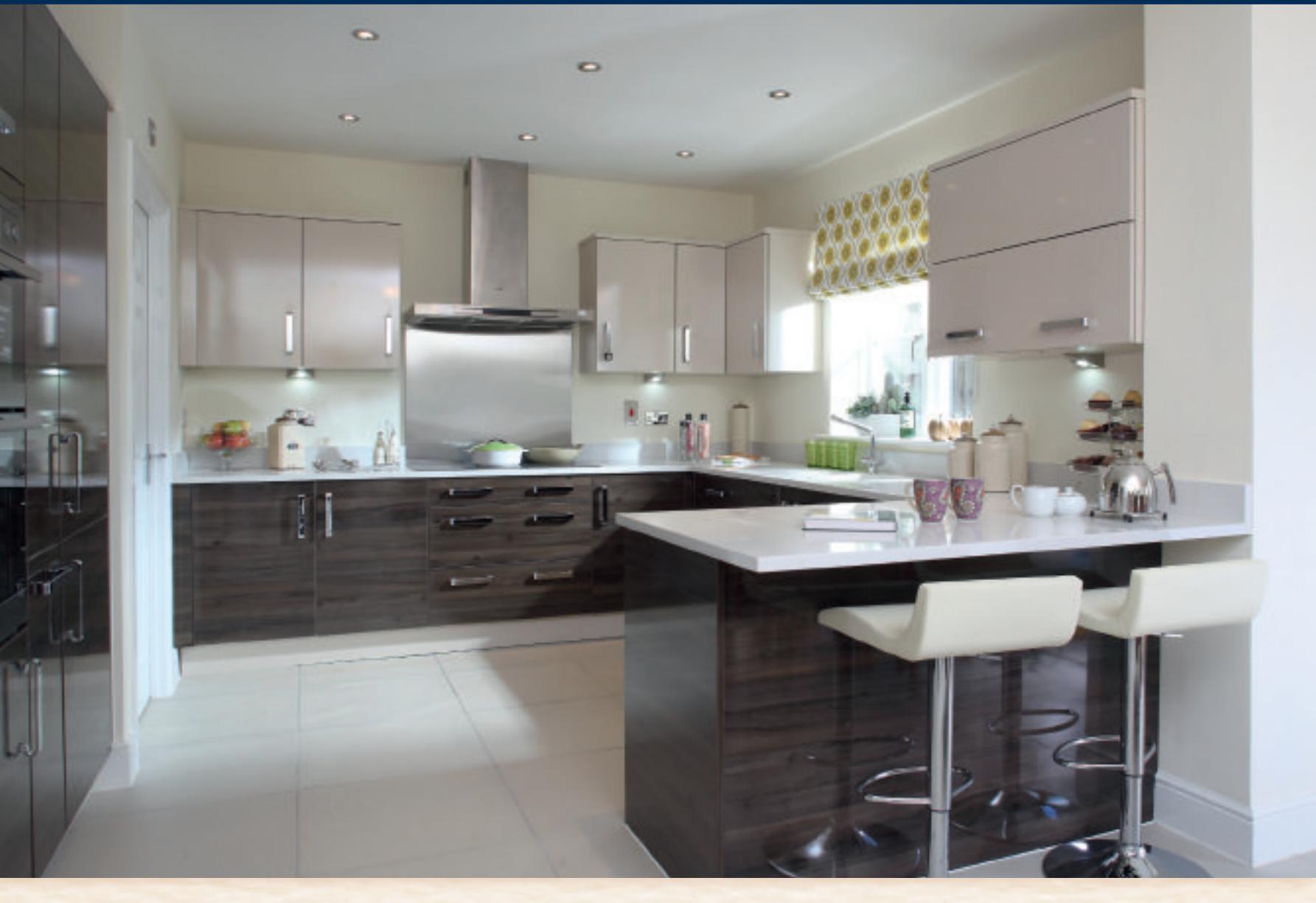
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The heart of this home is however, the beautiful kitchen and family room. At the start and at the end of each day, this is the perfect place to gather.

From the gallery landing, the house has so much more yet to be unveiled. There is a stunning master suite with fitted wardrobes and en suite shower room which provides the ultimate sanctuary.



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Charles Church has created a range of homes including some unique bungalows at The Paddocks. The only thing left to do is to come see for yourself!

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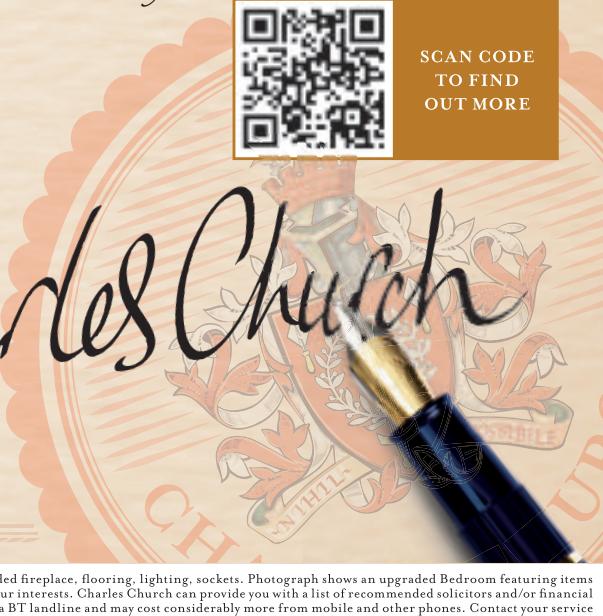
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Duster cleans up as sales success

By David Duffy

A FORMER colleague who rang asking for advice on buying a new car to replace her ageing classic Mini knew exactly what she wanted — and didn't want.

"I don't need air conditioning, electric windows, or a sunroof. Basically I want a dog kennel on wheels."

Good luck with that I thought quietly to myself, as even bargain basement cars now come equipped with everything from onboard computers to iPod connectors, whether you want them or not.

But the ability to pay for only what you really value on a car and keep prices rock-bottom, was recognised by Romanian firm Dacia as a route to sales success, helping to turn it into the IKEA of the car-making world.

Dacia's first model since being taken over by the Renault Group in 1999 was the Logan saloon, selling for just 5,000 euros in Romania. Soaring demand for its cars across Europe and North Africa — left-hand-drive naturally — has made Dacia the fastest-growing automotive brand in Europe for eight years in a row, which is why the UK and Ireland have had to wait so long for right-hand-drive cars to be produced.

Now the range has arrived in the

UK with the Sandero supermini, Sandero Stepway crossover from May, the five-seater estate Logan MCV and the Duster off-roader.

The Indian-built Duster, which is priced from £8,995, delivers a family-sized sports utility vehicle, in both 4x4 and front-wheel-drive versions, for less than most superminis. Even the air-conditioned, top-of-the-range Laureate model tested here costs less than the cheapest version of the Ford Focus and its muscular, flared wheelarched package is packed with surprises. First and foremost, the Duster is

astonishingly well built. The interior might have its share of hard plastic surfaces, but they are livened up with satin chrome trim, piano black finishes and crucially there are no bangs, squeaks or rattles.

Steering is nicely weighted and the ride is surprisingly quiet and

Auto facts

Model: Dacia Duster Laureate 1.5dCi 110
Price: £15,295
Ins group: 10 (1-50)
Fuel consumption: (Combined): 53.3mpg
Top speed: 104mph
Length: 431.5cm/170in
Width: 182.2cm/71.7in
Luggage capacity: 14.4 cu ft
Fuel tank capacity: 11 gallons/50 litres
CO₂ emissions: 137g/km
Warranty: Three years/60,000 miles



SOLID PERFORMER: The Dacia Duster is a well built vehicle

smooth, erring on the side of comfort rather than pin-point handling, which is just fine as that suits the character of the car perfectly. Power came from a 1.5-litre diesel engine, delivering 110 horsepower, through a slick, six-speed manual gearbox, which is clearly geared for economy.

Dacia keeps its costs down by building every model on the same platform, sharing parts, including engines and transmissions, with other Dacia and Renault-Nissan alliance vehicles.

My former colleague eventually decided to spend more than £2,000 returning her classic Mini into sparkling-as-new condition.

LAND Rover has released details of its first production hybrid sports utility vehicles, which will be capable of 44mpg and be rated at 169g/km of CO₂. The figures, shared across the Range Rover Hybrid and Range Rover Sport Hybrid, are a significant improvement on the standard diesel drivetrain's 37.7mpg and 196g/km in the latest Range Rover, but the firm claims that the new system offers performance on a par with the exceptional SDV8 models.

Power is put to the road through an eight-speed ZF gearbox. The

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Wheelsanddeals

■ THE new Volkswagen Golf R will be able to sprint to 62mph in an unprecedented 4.9 seconds, the company has revealed. This astonishing pace, which comes when the Golf R is specified with a twin-clutch automatic DSG gearbox, makes it as fast away from the lights as older sports cars like the Ferrari 355, the 4.0-litre TVR Cerbera and the Caterham 7 R300. The car will star on the Volkswagen stand at the Frankfurt Motor Show, with a UK on-sale date to be confirmed after that time.

■ The new Insignia is the most aerodynamic car in its class, according to claims being made by Vauxhall. Thanks to a series of small changes to the bodywork and air flow management, engineers have reduced the drag coefficient to less than 0.25 for the hatchback. New underbody covers clean up the air flow, while wider front spoiler lips, tail lamp housings are designed to enhance airflow.

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2006 56	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 CLASSIC, 3 Door, Red, 1 Owner, Excellent Condition, PAS, Electric Windows, Radio/CD, Central Locking, Good Service History, Low Insurance Group, Sold With a New MOT & a Full Service, HPI Clear.....	£2,995
2004 04	Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 Design, Metallic Gold, 3 Door. Approximately only 40000 recorded miles. 2 owners. Aircon. PAS. Electric windows, Remote central locking, Radio/CD. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt kit, HPI Clear.....	£2,995,00
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1997 P	TOYOTA CELICA 1.8 ST COUPE, Turquoise Blue, Exceptional Condition, PAS, Alloys, Central Locking, Electric Windows, Sun Roof, Local Car, HPI Clear.....	£1,295
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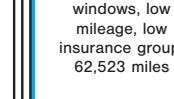
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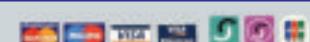
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03	03	FORD MONDEO TDCI GRAPHITE, Silver, 5 Door, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows, Airbags...	£14 .. £2999
04	54	FORD MONDEO TDCI, Silver, Manuel, Alloys, A/C, CD...	£14 .. £2999
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07	07	FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC CLIMATE, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Only 17000 Miles from New...	£25 .. £5399
08	08	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 FREEWAY, Bright Red, 3 Door, Elec Windows, CD, Central Locking...	£22 .. £4699
06	06	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 CLUB NEW SHAPE, Silver, 5 Door, A/C, CD, Elec Windows, Airbags...	£22 .. £4699
07	56	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LOOK, 5 Door, Dark, Silver, A/C, Elec Windows, Low Insurance...	£21 .. £4499
06	06	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 AUTOMATIC, Red, 5 Door, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows, Airbag...	£21 .. £4499
03	03	HONDA CIVIC 1.4 S, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Air Bags, Elec Windows, Only 44000 Miles...	£19 .. £3999
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05	55	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 5 DOOR, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows, Ideal 1st Car...	£18 .. £3999
04	54	FORD MONDEO 1.8 ZETEC, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Elec Windows, Airbags...	£17 .. £3699
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03	03	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI, 3 Door, Met Gold, Elec Windows, Airbags, CD...	£14 .. £2999
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04	04	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC, 5 Door, Silver, A/C, CD, Alloys, Airbags...	£13 .. £2699
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